

I now have a flag hanging in my office with 2,977 names of those who perished that day. Two of those names were my friends.

September 11, now known as Patriot Day, brought us together and unified our Nation in defiance of terrorism and evil. Let us continue to come together and never forget that we are all Americans and that we, here, represent the greatest country on Earth.

RECOGNIZING ARTS IN EDUCATION WEEK

(Ms. PINGREE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Arts in Education Week.

As children return to school from their summer vacations, I am reminded that true education must go beyond language arts and math. It must include daily access to creative subjects like dance, poetry, visual arts, and theater.

Ninety-three percent of Americans agree: The arts are a vital part of a well-rounded education, and when schools make the investment, we see ripple effects across students' lives. A student involved in the arts is four times more likely to be recognized for academic achievement; they are three times more likely to win an award for school attendance and are elected to class office more than three times as often as their peers.

We must do more to ensure every child can regularly access arts education. In the most recent appropriations bill passed by this Chamber, we included a \$6 million increase to support Arts in Education at the Department of Education.

I am proud to work with lawmakers on both sides of the aisle to support this program and will push to preserve a strong increase in any final spending bill.

LET'S PUT PARTISAN POLITICS ASIDE

(Mr. BANKS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BANKS. Mr. Speaker, it has been almost 12 months since we reached a new trade agreement with Mexico and Canada. Both Mexico and Canada promptly ratified the agreement, but the House majority party refuses to let us vote on it.

While it is a multinational agreement, the benefits will be felt greatly in my home State of Indiana. Forty-seven percent of Indiana's exports go to Mexico and Canada, generating \$18 billion in revenue for the Hoosier State. American workers need this. Hoosier workers need this.

Speaker PELOSI, please, let's put partisan politics aside and do what is best for Indiana, for our country, and for all of North America. It is time to find the

courage to bring this trade deal to the floor for a vote.

□ 1215

REMEMBERING 9/11

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, the events of September 11, 2001, and the courage of the first responders who ran into danger are forever etched in our minds and our hearts. Nearly 3,000 people were killed, thousands more were injured, and for many who were at Ground Zero, their pain and suffering endure.

This year we finally made the 9/11 Victim's Compensation Fund permanent so that we can always take care of our first responders, volunteers, and their families. We learned many lessons on that day. Lessons in sacrifice, sorrow, and bravery, as well as lessons in national security preparedness and foreign policy.

As we pause today to remember the victims and all those who were impacted by the attacks, let us also remember the lessons and maintain constant vigilance in our shared national commitment to never forget.

AMERICA WILL NEVER FORGET 9/11

(Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, never forget. In 2001 on 9/11, 2,977 peaceful people were murdered by 19 jihadi terrorists who were recruited by, plotted with, and were directed by al-Qaida to commit evil acts of war against the United States of America.

America is the greatest Nation to ever exist. We must never waiver in our resolve to defend our way of life. As the world tragically learned on 9/11, terrorists should never be ignored or given sanctuary to plan, prepare, or launch their evil acts. As Scripture says, there is a time for war. Following 9/11 was such a time.

Sadly, America's focus has long since expanded from finding and eliminating terrorists and those who give them sanctuary. Great nations don't fight endless wars. If we are truly to make America great again, we must be laser focused. America does not negotiate with terrorists or those who give them sanctuary. There is no substitute for victory.

WHEN WILL AMERICANS LEARN

(Ms. DEAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1941, H.R. 1146, and H.R. 205, three bills which will prevent oil

and gas leasing on our Outer Continental Shelf, in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and near Florida's Gulf Coast.

In 1969, America suffered a disastrous oil spill off Santa Barbara. Two decades later, Exxon Valdez devastated Prince William Sound. In 2010, Deepwater Horizon ravaged the Gulf of Mexico.

When will we learn? How much more of our coastline will have to be ruined? How many more local economies will be shattered? How many more lives will be lost?

Republican and Democratic officials oppose the administration's expanded drilling plans. They know the health, environmental, and economic costs of oil spills and that those accidents occur thousands of times each year. There is no reason to take such risks, especially when we have cleaner, safer ways of producing the energy we need.

I applaud Representatives CUNNINGHAM, HUFFMAN, and ROONEY for offering this legislation to protect our planet and in the spirit of Pennsylvania's Constitution, which guarantees the people the right to clean air, clean water, and the preservation of our natural aesthetic.

I urge Members to support these bills. And I, too, say God bless America this day and all days.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL OPIOID AWARENESS WEEK

(Mr. GUTHRIE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Opioid Awareness Week. My home State of Kentucky has been one of the hardest hit by our Nation's ongoing opioid crisis. Sadly, over 1,300 Kentuckians died of a drug overdose in 2018.

I have been proud to work with my colleagues on the House Energy and Commerce Committee to combat the ongoing nationwide opioid epidemic. Next month we will honor the 1-year anniversary of the SUPPORT Act being signed into law. This landmark legislation is already helping communities prevent the rampant spread of opioid abuse, but more work needs to be done.

Last month I visited the Customs and Border Patrol international mail facility located at JFK Airport in New York. There I saw firsthand the dangers of illicit fentanyl coming through our borders. Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that can be so potent it can kill anyone that comes in contact with it, including our law enforcement officers. I will continue to work with President Trump and my colleagues to stop fentanyl from coming to our country and help stop this epidemic from harming our communities.

REMEMBERING 9/11

(Mr. ENGEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I am a New York Representative whose district is about 10 miles from the World Trade Center, and I lost many friends and constituents in that horrendous attack.

Many years ago, President Roosevelt stood right here in this Chamber and talked about a day of infamy regarding the attack on Pearl Harbor. Certainly, also the day of these attacks was a day of infamy, September 11, 2001.

I remember days and weeks after the attacks you would just walk in my district and see burned papers sort of dropping from the clouds. It is really something that we will remember forever. We remember the brave responders. We remember the people that gave their lives so that others can live. It also told us that we in the United States have to continue to fight tyranny, have to continue to remember those poor 3,000 souls whose lives ended. It could have been any one of us. They lost their lives.

So I think that this is a time for all Americans to pause and say we cherish our values. We remember the people who lost their lives, and we will always fight against oppression wherever it rears its ugly head. God bless America.

RECOGNIZING OFFICER KAREN BROWN

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the National Security Agency police officer Ms. Karen Brown for being named the 2019 Federal Law Enforcement Training Center Honor Graduate of the Year. The most prestigious award for FLETC students, Ms. Brown excelled with high marks in academics, physical fitness, and firearms training.

Originally from Ohio, Ms. Brown has worked at the NSA for the last 15 years serving in a number of roles at the agency; personal security, polygraph examination, counterintelligence threat examination, and more.

We thank Ms. Brown for her service to our Nation. A ceremony was held at FLETC to reward her accomplishments on Tuesday, August 27.

In addition to Ms. Brown's great work, I want to thank all of the students, recent graduates, and instructors at FLETC for their commitment to our Nation in bettering their workforce training. The Federal Law Enforcement Training Camp in Glynn County truly does an outstanding job in getting their students the necessary skills to thrive in any situation they may face in the field.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CICILLINE) laid before the House the

following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, September 11, 2019.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on September 11, 2019, at 10:53 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 1881.

That the Senate passed S. 2035.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON.

COASTAL AND MARINE ECONOMIES PROTECTION ACT

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous materials on H.R. 1941.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 548 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House on the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 1941.

The Chair appoints the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CUELLAR) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 1224

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 1941) to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior including in any leasing program certain planning areas, and for other purposes, with Mr. CUELLAR in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and the ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources.

The gentleman from California (Mr. LOWENTHAL) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The first question is, what do all governors, Republican and Democratic, along the entire East Coast and along the entire West Coast of the United States and over 330 municipalities and counties from these States all have in

common? You know what they have in common? They are all opposed to expanding offshore oil and gas development off their shores.

Today we are here to ensure that these coasts, the Atlantic and the Pacific, receive the assurance and the protection that they deserve. H.R. 1941, the Coastal and Marine Economies Protection Act would permanently protect the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts from offshore oil and gas drilling. From Maine down to Florida, from Washington to California, over 3,000 miles of the United States' coasts are threatened by the fossil fuel industry-driven agenda, which is driven by the Trump administration.

One of President Trump's first actions upon taking office was mandating the development of a new and totally unnecessary 5-year plan for offshore oil and gas lease sales. In January 2018, former Interior Secretary Zinke released a draft of that plan, which proposed opening more than 90 percent of the Outer Continental Shelf to oil and gas development. This proposal included the entirety of America's Atlantic and Pacific Coasts, and if enacted, drilling could endanger more than 72,000 miles of U.S. shorelines.

Expectedly, there was immediate pushback from citizens, elected officials, governors, business leaders, all who understood that their coastal communities are incompatible with offshore oil and gas.

The public knows that bringing in industry as risky and as dirty as oil and gas to the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts is dangerous on many levels. Our oceans sustain a rich diversity of marine life, and they provide immense value to America's coastal communities by helping to generate billions of dollars in economic output and by supporting millions of jobs.

For example, thriving fish stocks and healthy marine mammals off the coast of New Jersey, Maryland, and Florida support tackle shops, whale watching tours, and a massive seafood industry. And oil-free beaches and bays in Virginia and the Carolinas drive business for local restaurants, for vacation rentals, and for outfitters.

But coastal residents are not the only ones who will benefit from protecting these areas. Some of our Nation's most majestic national park units belonging to all Americans are along our coast, including Acadia, Biscayne, Cape Hatteras, and Point Reyes. People from all walks of life and diverse backgrounds and from both political parties cherish these special places, and they rely on healthy oceans, clean beaches, and the abundant fish and wildlife that come with them.

The inevitable spills and the variety of other onshore and offshore impacts from oil and gas drilling have no place along our East and West Coasts. Over one million people are employed by the tourism and recreation industries along the East Coast. These are real